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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/678,979	
	Filing Date	October 2, 2003	
	First Named Inventor	Stephen D. Pacetti	
	Group Art Unit	1734	
	Examiner Name	Laura Estelle Edwards	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission (excluding references)	3	Attorney Docket Number	50623.340

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deposit Account 07-1850 Authorization	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Express Mail Label No. EV 337 975 851 US	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P. Mark Lupkowski, Reg. No. 49,010
Signature	
Date	January 6, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail # EV 337 974 652 US in an envelope addressed to: BOX AMENDMENTS: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this date: January 6, 2005			
Typed or printed name	Patricia Gamble		
Signature		Date	January 6, 2005



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Examiner: Laura Estelle Edwards

Stephen D. Pacetti et al.

Serial No.: 10/678,979

Art Unit: 1734

Filed: October 2, 2003

Title: METHOD FOR SUPPORTING A STENT AND A METHOD OF
USING THE MADREL TO COAT A STENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF
TELEPHONIC INTERVIEW ON DECEMBER 6, 2004**

Dear Examiner Edwards:

This is a Statement of the Substance of the telephonic interview which occurred on December 6, 2004 regarding the Office Action mailed on September 7, 2004.

Claims discussed

All claims were discussed, in general. Claims 46 and 50 were discussed specifically.

Prior art discussed

Moein (US 6,572,644), Edwin et al. (US 6,245,099), Taylor et al. (US 6,214,115), and Shannon et al. (US, 5,928,279)

Summary of Discussion

The Examiner indicated the claims, in general, were anticipated by the prior art because they were given the most reasonably broad interpretation. In particular, the feature "gear" recited in all of the claims was given a broad interpretation.

With respect to claim 46, attorney for the applicant argued that, even with the broad interpretation of the claim, the feature of claim 46 "positioned on the mandrel to support the stent on an inner surface of the stent and to provide sufficient torque to the stent for rotating the stent during a coating process" was not taught by the cited prior art references. The Examiner indicated the feature could not be given patentable weight since there was no structure in the claim to support the feature. She suggested that the above-mentioned feature might be given patentable weight if the claim was amended to include such a structural limitation. The amendment to claim 46 includes such a structural limitation.

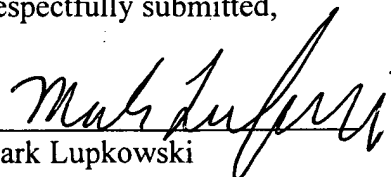
With respect to claim 50, attorney for the applicant argued that, even with the broad interpretation, the prior art cited does not teach the underlined portion of the feature "a gear supported by the mandrel having a diameter greater than a diameter of the mandrel and a diameter smaller than an inner diameter of the stent, the gear configured to provide support to the inner surface of the stent during a coating process". Attorney for the applicant indicated that the claim 50 was intended to cover at least the embodiment pictured in FIG. 4 of the application. Examiner suggested that an amendment that included a limitation describing spacing between an outer periphery of the gear and an inner surface of the stent may make the claim patentable. The amendment to claim 50 includes such a limitation.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at (415) 954-0297.

Date: January 6, 2005

Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP
One Maritime Plaza, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94111-3492
Telephone: 415.954.0297

Respectfully submitted,


Mark Lupkowski
Reg. No. 49,010
Attorney for Applicant